

Finance Committee meeting 27th June 2022 at 19.45.

Present Brian Devlin (Chair), Mary Rose (Secretary), Fr. Allen, Deacon John Garvey.

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Fr Allen

1. **Minutes of last meeting.** Were agreed

2. **Matters arising**

Car Park, it has been agreed in principle that the school can install descending barriers at entrance/exit to carpark, these to be paid for by the school with the parish having ownership. This will lead to the loss of one space in the car-park. The Diocesan Property Services Department has been supportive of the project and approval of the plans will be required from the local planning authority and the Diocesan Art and Architecture Committee. The first of these is unlikely to be received until late August/September. For the rest of this term the school has been allocated some extra parking spaces. Further parking nearer the school building may be possible by re-arranging the area at the rear of the Newman Centre The school will deal with this.

Part time posts, the reorganisation of the Deanery is not yet complete. Discussions on potential cross-Deanery assistance with administration and maintenance are on hold. H/S advisor is still required.

Greening the Parish, there is a noticeable lack of experts to contact about suitable heating for the church. Nationally the Church is attempting to pull things together but to date nothing is forthcoming. This will be reviewed at the next meeting.

3. **Current financial report**, a report on three recent years activity for Parish and Newman Centre –Increase in parish income was noted. At the time of the meeting energy costs had shown only a small increase. Letter received from IFM was circulated. It confirmed the anticipated increase of electricity, from June when contract will renew and advised that the cost of the contract will increase in September. The IFM contract has brought us advantage, and no change of contract is anticipated.

Noting the present bank balance and the delay to our rewiring and decorating projects it was agreed to look into whether it would be in our interest to invest (short term) some of this into the Unit Trust scheme.

Gift Aid, the refund for 2021/22 is around £5,000. That of the Small Income donations is expected to be in the region of £1,600.

3a. **50/50 Club**, this is maintaining membership therefore monthly prize money which had been reduced last year has been slightly increased for 2022/23

4. **Newman Centre**, The financial report examined at the meeting implied that current rentals are not covering the Centre's costs. Although the Gas and Electricity supply is understood to be on a fixed price tariff until 2024, however, with other cost increases being incurred, it was agreed to increase the rental for use of the rooms from September 2022.

It was noted that the Parish is not, as yet, making much use of the centre. It was agreed to explore the option of advertising to attract those who may wish part-time office space etc.

At present any major expenditure would either need to be drawn from parish funds – and this would be difficult to justify, given the level of usage by the parish – or from grant awarding bodies, given the Centre is principally used by community groups

5. **A.O.B.** There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.04.

6. **Date of next meeting** - 22nd November 2022.